

Appl. No. 10/045,132
Amdt. dated October 28, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 30, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 remain pending in the instant application. Claims 5-11 have been canceled. No claims have been amended by this response. A petition for a two month extension of time is being filed herewith.

In the office action mailed July 30, 2003, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement between the following groups of claims:

Group I claims 1-4 drawn to valve structures;

Group II claims 5-8 drawn to methods;

Group III claims 9-10 drawn to methods; and

Group IV claim 11 drawn to a method.

Applicants hereby elect Group I claims 1-4 without traverse. Accordingly, non-elected claims 5-11 are hereby canceled without prejudice to filing a divisional application drawn thereto.

Based upon the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully asserted that the application as amended is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Kent J. Tobin
Reg. No. 39,496

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 28 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
KJT:gcm:ejt
60058905 v1